

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0005] The major types of serine/threonine phosphatases have been identified as the PP1, PP2A, PP2B, and PP2C serine/threonine phosphatases. Alignments of the serine/threonine phosphatases have revealed a highly conserved central region of about 250 amino acid residues that contain three invariant regions, which have the following amino acid sequences: GDXHG (SEQ ID NO:30), GDXVDRG (SEQ ID NO:31), and RGNHE (SEQ ID NO:32) (Ansai, T., et al., J Biol. Chem., 271:24401-07 (1996)).